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Title : Delay in gauge conversion at Bhildi-Samdari railway line in Kutch, Gujarat.

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (KUTCH): Respected Sir, I may kindly be allowed to raise the following important issue concerning my constituency, namely, Kutch District in Gujarat as well as large parts of Northern States of India.

Subject: Unbearable delay in Gauge Conversion work of Bhiladi-Samdari Railway Line

Bhiladi-Samdari Railway Line is the shortest and alternate route to reach Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and many other parts of Northern States from Ports of Gujarat Viz. Kandla, Mundra, etc.

Bhiladi-Samdari-Jodhpur-Bikaner-Bhatinda Railway line is 160 kilometres shorter than the existing Palanpur-Ajmer-Revari-Bhatinda Railway Line.

Thus, Bhiladi-Samdari is very important line for gauge conversion.

Gauge conversion work of Palanpur-Gandhidham Railway line is already completed by Kutch Railway Joint Venture Company.

* The speech was laid on the Table.

It was decided that the work of gauge conversion of Bhiladi-Samdari Railway Line would be taken up by Kutch Railway Company.

The combined cost for both the projects was Rs. 797 crore. The equity contribution of the Government of Gujarat was Rs. 14.88 crore. The amendment to share agreement was approved by the Government of Gujarat on 22.5.06. But, this work is getting inordinately delayed which is causing immense inconvenience to public.

I, therefore, urge upon the Minister of Railway to kindly see that this work should start and be completed without any further delay.